

DISPERSED RECREATION POLICY

ALLEGHENY NATIONAL FOREST

The goal of the dispersed recreation policy is to protect the resources of the National Forest and provide a quality recreation experience for users now and in the future.

Vehicle Use:

- The Motor Vehicle Use Map (MVUM) shows all roads and trails open for public use and is the official tool for managing vehicle use on the Allegheny National Forest (ANF) (36 CFR 212.51). Over-snow vehicles, watercraft, and aircraft are exempt from MVUM.
- The use or possession of motor vehicles off of National Forest System roads is prohibited. (36 Code of Federal Regulations (CFR 261.56)). Vehicles should be parked no more than 50' from a designated road.
- Vehicles may not be parked in a manner blocking or restricting the use of any roadway OR in such a manner that it is an impediment or hazard to any person. (36 CFR 261.12(d), 36 CFR 261.10(f)).
- ATVs, snowmobiles, and unregistered motorcycles (non-street legal) are prohibited from using National Forest roads and are restricted to the designated trail systems (36 CFR 261.56, 36 CFR 261.54(a)).

Occupancy and Use:

- Do not camp or park in front of closed gates or in roadways - allow entry for emergency vehicles and administrative access (36 CFR 261.12(d), 36 CFR 261.10(f)).
- All campsites are on a **first come basis and will not be reserved**.
- At least one person must occupy a campsite during the first night (36 CFR 261.16(h)).
- Leaving camping equipment unattended for more than 24 hours is prohibited (36 CFR 261.58(e)).
- Permissible length of stay is no more than 14 days in a 30 day period (36 CFR 261.58(a)). Forest Order (F.O.) 09-01.
- Construction of custom, temporary structures in conjunction with camping will be allowed. Examples include tents and tarps. All structures must be removed from the National Forest by the user at the end of their stay at the site (36 CFR 261.10(e)).

Firearms – Firearms may be used in a manner consistent with Federal, State, and local laws, and good safety practices.

- All firearms users must provide for an adequate backstop behind their target area. Trees, signs, and other public property shall not be used as targets or backstops (36 CFR 261.9(a)).
- It is prohibited to discharge a firearm within 150 yards of a residence, building, campsite, or potentially occupied area. With the exception of legal migratory waterfowl hunting, it is prohibited to discharge firearms across or adjacent to a public roadway or body of water (36 CFR 261.10(d)).
- All trash, including brass and spent targets, must be removed from National Forest lands (36 CFR 261.11(d)).

Unreasonable noise – All Forest users are prohibited from causing public inconvenience, annoyance, or alarm by making unreasonably loud noise (36 CFR 261.4(d)).

Surface Resources:

- **Do not cut or otherwise damage live trees.** Do not put nails in trees, picnic tables, or other government property. Do not use trees to hang camp lanterns. The use of live trees for target backstops or to "plant" camp axes is prohibited (36 CFR 261.9(a), 36 CFR 261.6(a)).
- Cutting incidental amounts of dead wood for campsite firewood within the National Forest is allowed and does not require a permit. Removing wood from the National Forest requires a firewood permit which is available at local ranger district offices (36 CFR 261.6(a), 36 CFR 261.6(h)).
- Excavations are limited to those required to make safe campfire rings and sanitary pit toilets. Any excavation will be re-leveled prior to vacating your campsite.
- Digging for/removal of archaeological resources (artifacts) is prohibited (36 CFR 261.9(g),(h)).

Sanitation:

- **Pack It In, Pack It Out.** All garbage, including paper, cans, bottles, or rubbish must be placed in appropriate containers when on site and removed from National Forest lands when the site is vacated. Burying or otherwise disposing of garbage at the campsite is strictly prohibited. Do not dispose of cans, bottles, and other material in campfire rings (36 CFR 261.11(b), 36 CFR 261.11(d)).
- **A pit toilet or "cathole" is required for each camp** except on Clarion River, where public toilets must be used, or when camping is limited to "self-contained" trailers. Pit toilets shall be located at least 200 feet from any lake, pond, or stream. Pit toilets must be refilled to ground level with a minimum of six (6) inches of soil. Pack out toilet paper, diapers, and other sanitary products.
- "Self-contained" trailers must use designated dump stations for sewage and gray water.

Fire:

- **Do not leave campfires unattended.** Thoroughly extinguish campfires before leaving your campsite (36 CFR 261.5(d)).
- Possessing, storing, or transporting any amount of wood or firewood of any species that has originated outside of the counties of Elk, Forest, Warren, and/or McKean within Pennsylvania is prohibited (36 CFR 261.53(e), F.O. 09-22).

DISPERSED RECREATION POLICY

ALLEGHENY NATIONAL FOREST

Special Regulation Areas:

Dispersed camping is restricted or prohibited in the following areas:

Allegheny Reservoir

- Camping is prohibited on the shores and within 1,500 ft. inland of the tree line around the Reservoir EXCEPT at National Forest designated campgrounds (36 CFR 261.58(e) and F.O. 09-09).
- Camping is prohibited within 1,500 ft. of the centerline of Longhouse Scenic Byway (includes Longhouse Scenic Drive and portions of State Routes, 59, 346, and 321) and the main access roads into Jakes Rocks and Rimrock Recreation Area except at designated recreation sites (F. O. 09-09).

Arroyo Archeological Site

- Camping is prohibited (36 CFR 261.58(g) and F.O.09-25).
- Building, maintaining, attending, or using a campfire is prohibited (36 CFR 261.52(a) and F.O. 09-25).

Buzzard Swamp Propagation Area, Corydon-Riverview Cemetery

- All entry is prohibited (F.O. 09-05 and 08-04, respectively)

Clarion River and Millstone Creek (along River Road and FR 132)

- Camping is restricted to designated sites only.

Forest Roads 401 and 125

- Camping is prohibited within 500 feet of the centerline of FR 401 from the Forest boundary to the stone pit at the Marienville ATV trailhead (36 CFR 261.58(e) and F.O. 09-14).
- Camping is prohibited within 500 feet of the centerline of FR 125 (Pigs Ear Rd) between the intersections with FR 124 and State Route 66 (36 CFR 261.58(e) and F.O. 09-14).

Hickory Creek Wilderness/ Allegheny Islands Wilderness

- Motorized equipment and mechanical transports are strictly prohibited in Wilderness areas (36 CFR 261.16(a), 36 CFR 261.16(b)).

Jake's Rocks, and Rimrock

- Camping is prohibited.
- Climbing or rappelling on any cliff, rock, or stone face at Rimrock is prohibited (36 CFR 261.53(f), 36 CFR 261.53(e), F.O. 08-05).

Kinzua Creek from Red Bridge to Mead Run

- Camping is prohibited on either side of the main channel.

Tionesta Research Natural Area, Heart's Content Scenic Area

The following are prohibited under F. O. 09-12 and 09-13:

- Camping
- Building, maintaining, attending, or using a fire.
- Possessing or using a saddle, pack, or draft animal.
- Possessing or using a bicycle

Tionesta Reservoir

- Camping is prohibited on National Forest lands within 1,500 feet inland of the shore except at designated sites.
- Possession of a beverage which is defined as an alcoholic beverage by state law is prohibited (36 CFR 261.58(bb)), F. O. 09-08.

Additional Information

Bradford Ranger District:

814-362-4613

Marienville Ranger District:

814-927-6628

Supervisor's Office:

814-723-5150

www.fs.fed.us/r9/forests/allegheny